## CONTROLLER STEVE WESTLY STATE OF CALIFORNIA

300 Capitol Mall Sacramento, CA 95814 916.445.2636 www.controller.ca.gov

PR05: 027

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: CONTACT: RUSS LOPEZ
SEPTEMBER 7, 2005 916-445-2636

## Westly Urges Governor to Sign Marriage Equality Bill

**SACRAMENTO** – State Controller Steve Westly today issued the following statement after the California State Senate passed **AB 849** by Assemblymember Mark Leno (D-San Francisco), legislation that defines marriage between "two people" rather than just between a man and a woman.

"I congratulate the California State Assembly and Senate for being the first Legislature in the country to pass a marriage equality bill. This issue is solely about respect and equality—nothing else.

"I have always stood by the GLBT community, supporting domestic partner rights and leading the way on my boards and commissions to ensure GLBT couples have the same protections as married couples. If I had the power, I would immediately sign this bill. I urge Governor Schwarzenegger to do the right thing: sign this bill."

###